

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

	Date of mailing (day/month/year) 06 -08- 2004
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Applicant's or agent's file reference 72150PC	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
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International application No. PCT/SE2004/000732	International filing date (day/month/year) 12.05.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 12.05.2003
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International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC E21D 21/00, E21F 17/02
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Applicant Atlas Copco Rock Drills AB Patent et al

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1 bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further opinions, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88
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Authorized officer

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/SE2004/000732

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 - a sequence listing
 - table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - in written format
 - in computer-readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - contained in the international application as filed.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No. PCT/SE2004/000732

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1 - 9</u>	YES
	Claims	<hr/>
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1 - 9</u>	YES
	Claims	<hr/>
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1 - 9</u>	YES
	Claims	<hr/>

2. Citations and explanations:

The claimed invention

The claimed invention relates to expandable rock bolts for use as suspension attachments. It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved rock bolt for suspension, which entails minimized stress concentrations in the bolt. Another object of the present invention is to provide a suspension device that simplifies the work when moving into a rock.

The following documents have been cited in the International Search Report

D1: US 3 651 651 A
D2: US 5 997 219 A
D3: SE 443 398 B
D4: SE 427 764 B

The documents cited in the International Search Report represent the prior art. The claimed invention stated in claims 1-9 is not considered to be anticipated by these documents. None of the documents or any relevant combination of them reveals expandable rock bolts for use as suspension attachments as described by these claims.

According to the arguments stated above, the invention claimed in claims 1-9 is novel, considered to involve an inventive step and has industrial applicability.